

FRS NEWSLETTER

Volume 3 - Issue # 24 - December 1999

Dear FRS-Holland Friend!

The final Millennium edition. In the 1982 Summer I started an A4 size publication called "FRS Goes DX". The magazine developed from a simple newsletter into an A5 and later an A4 size magazine. April 1997 "FRS Goes DX" came to an end and I continued with the FRS Newsletter. More than 17 years of providing information towards the listening audience. With the introduction of new media, just look at the Internet, much has changed but still a written publication is still in demand. So also in 2000 the FRS Newsletter will continue. Make sure to send your renewal straightaway. The subscription price for one year remains: DM 10.00/ £ 4.00/ f 10.00/ US\$ 6.00. Overseas readers pay a little bit more: US\$ 8.00. May I do a wish? That all renewals will be sent in January. Every year it's a "fight" to make people aware of the fact that they haven't paid their contribution yet... So, make things easy for us please!! **Important:** due to serious problems with the printer providing changing info to reader, we felt we had an opportunity thus changing to a new one. So...here are the new addresses for Emaile <frsh@planet.nl> and <peterv.vorberg@tpi.nl>. Our site: <http://www.planet.nl/~frsh/home.html>. And of course our good old P.O.Box 2727 in 6049 ZG Herten. The Netherlands.... May I wish all of you a happy X-Mas and a great start of the new millennium? Hopefully will 2000 bring what you are looking for... *733, Peter V.*

FRS NEWSCORNER

FRS-Holland (Future) Activities

October 31st 1999 FRS-Holland celebrated its 19th anniversary. It was our second broadcast in this final millennium year and as always we had put considerable efforts in producing a varied programme offer. Great music from the 1980-1999 FRS era, information (two 30 min DX-shows), The Phrase that pays, a listeners' competition and the introduction of a brandnew millennium set of jingles. Pts commenced at 19.52 and ended at 14.30 CET. Almost 5 hours of SW Free Radio on 6240. It was indeed disappointing to discover that just 40 letters were received. Disappointing because in the past years we received far more letters for similar anniversary broadcasts and disappointing because when you invest so much time into something, you expect to get something in return. Looking at the propagation/ signal quality it is certainly not true to claim that the poor response was caused by a poor signal! I'm pretty sure that the same counts for our programme output. That cannot be the reason. Just tell me how many SW Free Radio stations offer nowadays such different programming including so much free radio information? So remains the question: what is wrong with the current SW scene? I discussed this already in a previous edition. It looks like a lot of listeners have given up listening to 48 metres on a Sunday morning. Or just listen very occasionally. The lack of enough interesting stations? New hobbies? No interest anymore to take the trouble to write to stations? It was our second 1999 broadcast and I thought that would encourage the audience to drop us a line. By the way: it was also disappointing to see how few people having subscribed to this Newsletter dropped us a line. Anyway, we hope to have a better response for the upcoming X-Mas broadcast. FRS-Holland will continue in 2000 hoping to be more active than in 1999. But if response remains low, what's the point of carrying out regular broadcasts on SW? Putting so much money and efforts in preparing and carrying out the broadcasts. EMR has closed down because of...a lack of interest from the listeners. Unbelievable knowing how few genuine programming stations are active on a Sunday morning. One more quality station gone...very sad but true!!

X-Mas 1999

Boxing Day Dec. 26th FRS-Holland will ring out 199 and this millennium with a combined X-Mas/ Millennium broadcast. Pts will commence at 08.52 UTC and close down at approx. 12.20 UTC. Unlike a number of college stations go **on-air** broadcast but instead 365 hours of great music (including lots of records you do not hear often on the SW bands), the Oct. 11th mail, extracts of FRS X-Mas broadcasts from the past 19 years (in selection course), DX-info and much more... Just listen yourself. We expect the 48 mb to be crowded with stations, so we doubt whether we move to 41 metres. That is uncertain at the moment these words are committed to paper. Check 41 metres (7333, 7360 or between 7420 and 7500) and 48 metres as well. Your reward for a rec reports is our millennium QSL-card. It feels strange...after more than 19 years SW broadcasting ringing out the millennium. YOU could help to make a success of our final millennium broadcast: send your report to our Herten resident!

FRS Jingle CD

We have put together a separate info-sheet informing you about the new FRS-Holland jingle CD covering more than 19 years of jingles.

SWFREE RADIO SCENE

General

For the time of the year, conditions on SW are very poor! In the past few weeks propagation was appalling compared with the same period last year. Hopefully things will get better over the X-Mas Season when lots of stations will be active. We are curious how many stations will be putting out special Millennium/Christmas pts. Dec. 25th & 26th 48 metres could be overcrowded. The annual SRS Free Radio Poll was won by Radio Korak Ltd. The Top 3 looks like this: 1. Radio Korak Ltd. 2. Radio Cochiquiz 3. Level 48 3. R.Dr. Tim. Congrats are going out to all stations, in particular to the crew of Radio Korak International!! Well done. Finally, we have added the Dortmund address (9) to our list as we see this one is going to be used by more and more (German) SW stations. And last but not least: in November the sad news reached us European Music Radio has closed down. More info under the EMR. head, see also P.V.'s view regarding the lack of response in the FRS Newscorner.

Full of good intentions for the magic year 2000? Your first one is sending your renewal straightaway to FRS, P.O.Box 2727 in 6049 ZG Herten. It is simple and takes less than 5 minutes. For DM 10.00/ 4 pounds/ 6 US dollars you will receive this Newsletter for another year. Do it...NOW !!!

ALFA LIMA INTERNATIONAL informs that the station is regularly acting on 19 metres within the 15100-15140 kHz range. Times within the 48 mb however will continue as well. And for Internet addicts there's some good news as well: RAL have started with putting outdata files as well as updated schedules on its web page < <http://www.alfalimainternational.nl> >. Email: < alfalim@brande.de >. Address is Alfa Lima Int, P.O.Box 463, 7900 AR Hoogeveen the Netherlands. Sun Nov. 7th RAL was heard on 19 metres/15119 and Sun Nov 28th on 6240 because 6280 was occupied by Radio Tonia. Sun Dec. 5th RAL was active simultaneously on two frequencies: 6270 (100W) and 15140 kHz (400W).

RADIO ANTARE has been on air with their first show Saturday October 16th around 20.00 UTC on 76m. Address is (9). The new Email address is < Antare@seconline.nl >.

RADIO BONDONICA (7) continues with irregular times within the 26 mb on 11486 kHz. Signals outside of the dead zone seem to be very good. October 20th Dutch powerhouse R. BLUESTAR tested on 3904. Sat Oct. 23rd saw another test on 3906 with a fair signal. On Sunday November 28th Blue Star was on 5815, some 10 kHz above the Fiermes doing their final show at that moment. A number of times Bluestar was monitored on 6306 kHz, mostly with very powerful signals. Address is P.O.Box 1104, NL-8001 BC Zwolle in the Netherlands.

Dutch Radio BREKIN mentioned in its Sun Nov. 14th broadcast that it was the final one. In the mean time the OP confirmed the close down in a letter. Address is P.O.Box 962, 7550 AZ Heugelo in the Netherlands.

BRITAIN RADIO INT. will hopefully soon return on SW. Sun Oct. 3rd the station was acted on 6210 announcing the restart of regular pts on SW. BRI is one of Britain's oldest SW stations and has been silent for over a year due to several circumstances. We believe that the Oct. 3rd broadcast was a relay via Irish JRR. In the past BRI was alternately to be heard via JRR and via own air tuned to 6236 and 7365. Address remains (4). Asking the JRR OP about an eventual return, he said that he has trust for some time to contact Roger Davis but so far he didn't succeed. Looks like a quick return will happen...

RADIO BENELUX was heard on 5811. Oct. 17th. BNL was also numerous times on 7480, for example on Sun Nov. 28th and Sun Dec. 12th. Fine signals on that QRG! Any station willing to send a 20-30 min tape with its station history and other relevant info is invited to do so. BNL will air such tape under the Free Radio Spot flag. Address is P.O.Box 5 in 8800 AA Raalte, the Netherlands.



many stations as possible on shortwave above 3000kHz. QSO-stations will not count. A station counts more than once on one day, if you hear it on different frequencies. Every station counts 15 points, 50 special points will be given away for the contest programme of Radio Project One. Every contributor will get a diploma, many prizes will be given away.

Last day of dispatch is 15th January, 2000 according to day of postmark. Reception reports of the contest contributors will be forwarded to the stations (don't forget the return postage for the stations). Contest conditions: Each station with 15 minutes programme details with declaration of date, time, frequency, S/NP-code, language, modulation. A table will be suitable. Also stations heard less than 15 minutes will be counted, each minus 1 point. Contest fees: Contributors from Germany have to pay 10 DM, contributors from foreign countries have to pay 12 DM (due to higher postal rates for delivery into foreign countries). Stamps, cash and US-Dollar in respective value will be accepted. IRCs will not be accepted as the postal authorities do not accept them fully. Contact address: (9).

RADIO MORNINGSTAR's site: <http://dreamwater.com/radiomorningstar>
News now from **RADIO NORDSEE INTERNATIONAL**. Sunday October 9th the station was to be heard for the final time on the SW bands. Freq that day was 6239 kHz. Easter Monday Nordsee was raised by the German Bundespost and overtook the station was off air. That is certainly not the end of Nordsee because a number of info releases we received last week via the Internet. From now on Nordsee is concentrating on the Internet. Fri Oct. 22nd the station was live on the Internet starting at 16:00 CET sharp. You were to be heard via www.radiomorningstar.de. During the show listeners could mail their musical requests to the station via the following Email address: mail@radiomorningstar.de. Sun Oct. 24th yet another Internet broadcast was aired over the Internet. For the technically minded among you: MP3 files are aired. Radio Nordsee International offers seriously interested Free Radio Stations the possibility to air their shows via the Internet using the facilities of RNI. This is a free service, the costs are nil. Presently Jugendradio DT 64, Radio Eubay, Radio Flamingo, Radio Perfect and Radio Mianbu are making use of RNI's Internet Radio Relay Service. As from November onwards Radio Marabu programming will be heard every 2nd Saturday starting at 16:00 hours. The first relay from other stations started yesterday evening and will continue this evening at 16:00 hours. Nordsee can also be reached by mail, as from now on a new address takes effect: P.O.Box 191, D-65596 Bieberstadt, Germany. Telephone: +49-177-691787. On the RNI Internet website you can order a number of RNI-related articles via the on-line shop: radio-recordings, CDs, T-Shirts.

Sun Nov. 21st **RADIO NORDSEE** (not the above one!) was heard on 6210 and Dec. 9th 6205 was in use. It seems power to about 70W fed into a rather ineffective antenna system. Address in P.O. Box 2209, D-77612 in Offenburg, Germany. January 2nd RNI will be on air between 10:00-12:00 with listeners' letters. Between 12:00-14:00 there will be a relay of... Radio Nordsee (the 'original one') with P.O.Box 191.

OZONE RADIO carried out an interesting series of tests on different 41 m fraps Sun Nov. 21st 1999. The tests were carried out to see how propagation was at the different times and freqs. Between 07:00-08:00 UTC 15 min. tests were used on 7395, 7420, 7480 & 7485. Tests were returned between 16:00-18:00 UTC in 30 min. blocks on 7435, 7460, 7480 and 7525 or 7420. Reports to: hb9mcd@compuserve.com. Or: 55D Chester Road, London N19 4DF England.

Good old German **PBS** has dropped its hamnet account and is now using the Email address: pbs@psx.de.

PIPELINE RADIO INTERNATIONAL which was heard via Radio Padoes in October, uses the following address: 61 Elford Close, London SE3 9YW, UK.

Q-103, at planning time within the 42 mb (7485, 7510) during X-Mas Season Holiday.

Monday September 27th on a rather strange moment Dutch **RADIO REBEL** INT. resumed as SW transmitters. Rebel was to be heard on 6505 kHz running 15 watts into a longwave antenna. The station's story began exactly 10 years ago in 1989.

The **SRS NEWS & WEAR SHOW** went out via TAR on 6295 (November) and also on Sat Nov. 27th via Torrevalk on 6305. Saturday November 27th Italian **RADIO STRIKE** was celebrating its 5th anniversary via the 7120 outlet of the IRRS. Pts started at 08:30 UTC. was very good. Correct reception report have been verified with a special QSL folder. Address in P.O.Box 119, Succursale 34 1-90144, Palermo in Italy.

SUPERCLAN RADIO tested on 6200 & 6205 on Sun Nov. 21st. Laser 558 and also Superclan tapes were heard. Power is unknown, the station will be perhaps back in the near future. Around X-Mas/New Year??

interesting news from the **SW RELAY SERVICE** in Southern Europe. Soon a broadcast AM is. will be put into service on the station's main 11470 kHz freq within the 26th Dec. That is will replace the USF-arg which was used since SWRS's start. In addition the 41 m rig on 7465 will also

be heard in AM replacing the inferior USB quality. At present time some final adjustments are being carried out, expect the new AM service sometime early November. SWRS broadcasts on Fridays 1900-2400 (or till Saturday at 0200), Saturdays 1400-2400 (or till Sunday at 0200) and Sundays 0600-2400 (or later) on 7465 and 11470 AM and 21860 USB. Over the weekend there are also broadcasts on 3905 kHz in either AM or USB aimed at Central and Southern Europe and starting at 1900 UTC. Sun Oct. 10th the 11470 and 21860 USB outlets were received in the Indian ocean! Latest news: the SWRS has suspended all activities since mid November. The reason is unknown. We await further developments. Also their website is 'off the air'.

RADIO DE JTM has an interesting site: <http://boten.torrevalk.com>. Sun Oct. 17th **RADIO TITANIC 09** (Dutch) was testing on 16289 Sun Dec. 5th 6266 was in use late in the afternoon. Signal was fine.

RADIO TONAIR was heard on SW Sun November 28th offering a 100W transmitter and modulator. Within 3 minutes the tx was sold...

Sat Nov. 13th **RADIO TORREVALK** was testing a broadband antenna on 6290. Radio Torrevalk can now be reached by the following Email address: doctordave@hotmail.com.

TRANSATLANTIC RADIO airs 30 min. DX-shows fortnightly. The OPs of Radio Dr. Tim & Radio Torrevalk will be taking care of providing the news. Sun Nov. 7th TAR was on 6295 and a week later SRS' 5th birthday show was relayed on 6295. Sun Dec. 5th another DX-go was heard on 6295. Address in P.O.Box 4427 in 3006 AK Rotterdam.

UK RADIO was raised on Sun Dec. 5th by the DTL and Police. They apparently kicked down the door and confiscated a lot of equipment. They have plans to return to the air but it may be a while. UK Radio was heard on a weekly basis on 6266 kHz. You can visit their website: www.ukradio.free-online.co.uk/ for more info.

UNION RADIO was heard on 6280 on Sun Oct. 10th. Signal and mod quality were excellent. Nov. 7th 6281 kHz was in use. Address is (3).

Oct. 3rd the **XENON TRANSMITTER COMPANY** was noted on 6275. A week later on 6302. Nov. 7th 6290 was in use with 20W. Nov. 14th a test was carried out on 6291 kHz. Most of the time far signals are to be heard on the constant. Sun Nov. 28th on 6256 giving out a telephone number. Address??

RADIO WAVES INT. from France celebrated its 16th station birthday in November. Any reports will be verified with a special colour QSL. More info can be read on the following website: www.amateur.fr/radiowaves.htm. RWI programs include: Country Music Show, Rock City & a French Service. Address at (4). RWI started its broadcasting life in 1983. Keep an eye on the following freq: 7484 kHz & 11401kHz. Congrats are going out to colleague Peter Hills. Sat Oct. 2nd and 9th saw RWI on 3955 via the Italian IRRS. On the 9th and 10th of October RWI was also noted on 7120 via the IRRS. Fri Oct. 15th 3955 kHz. Sun Oct. 17th 11401 kHz. Sat Oct. 23rd much to our surprise a birthday show was heard on 3955 via the IRRS.

Some interesting WEBSITES: www.gpsa.gpsa.net/~larswold is a SW website. Another site well worth checking is "Vogelradio Radio", a lot of new stuff has been added, take a look at www.vogelradio-radio.de. We got this tip for an interesting site with some good free radio links: www.pccomms.com/CapeCanaveral/444/6791/djrm/vaw.htm.

If you are interested in homebrew transmitters and electronics, check this one: www.horne.earthlink.net/~af4kham/444.htm. For interesting info about Dutch FM-pirates take a look at www.pirats.demon.nl/.

OFFSHORE NEWS

Radio Caroline Satellite

Caroline continues with weekend time via satellite. If you have just bought yourself a satellite receiver, this is the way to receive the station: Tune in to Astra satellite 1C. Find the TV station TV Travel Shop or Challenge TV. On most sets this is on Channel 35. Then click on the audio button until you hear the sounds of Radio Caroline.

Caroline Christmas Party

Caroline staff and listeners will join together for a Christmas party on Saturday Dec 18th. The event takes place from early evening onwards at the First Cross Motel on the A505 in Royston. Herby Barry James and the Caroline Road Show will provide music for the event. Some overnight accommodation may still be available. Call 01763.208272 to enquire. Caroline merchandise will be available; also various Caroline staff presenters and celebrities will be present.

X-Mas Broadcast General News

There are no Caroline special plans for X-Mas & the Millennium. Mark Stafford who's Head Of Music on Caroline and programmes most of the shows will probably do a look back at the best Rock singles and albums of 1999 on Sunday the 26th December. He will become the last Radio



Caroline presenter to broadcast in the 20th Century. On his next show on the 2nd January it will be a year exactly since EKR was closed down in the same studio. So, there will be a small tribute. Brian Martin is taking a break at the moment as his wife is expecting a baby this month. He will be back in January doing regular shows (excellent news). Sarah Miller will mix X-Mas & New Year as she now works in paid radio from Liberty 96.3 in Leeds. She usually does a late night show but is doing daytime fill-in at X-Mas.

Ross Revenge

The fact the weather is getting worse, made the Caroline management decide to sail the Ross Revenge from the pier in Southend to the river Medway, close to Rochester. The ship had almost been drifting when one of the cables came loose. Just in time new cables were tied up.

Positive: during the August RSL, Caroline earned so much money that it has become possible to buy a new generator!

Caroline supporters have always believed that buying stuff from Caroline Sales was supporting the satellite service. But in actual fact the people behind Caroline Sales do not support the satellite service. It seems they only give the money that they make to pay for things on the Ross Revenge. Strange situation knowing not a penny is going to the Satellite service! Strange because its the satellite service which is the current voice of Radio Caroline....

New antenna tower

In an astonishing example of goodwill the UK Department of Trade and Industry, previously dedicated to the closure of Caroline have made a gift of a new aerial tower to the station. The mast was purpose built at great cost to be erected on the radio ship King David which was being fitted out in the UK for Israeli owners and was intended for service in the Mediterranean. For some while it was thought that the D.T.I. would allow the ship to fit out, just as long as it was not made complete prior to leaving UK territory. In a surprise move, the DTI then raided the vessel and removed various hardware including the 120ft tower. After the King David sailed, incomplete and the mast was put in store. The original owners said that they had no further interest in it and the D.T.I. is allowing Radio Caroline to take possession of it. The present towers on the ship were erected eleven years ago and it is generally thought they they require replacement. Comment from Caroline ship Johnny Lewis: this antenna tower is not suitable for us...

No luck with Luxembourg

Sadly the hopes for co-operation with Radio Luxembourg will not now take place, or not for the foreseeable future. Ross Revenge was made ready to travel from Southend to London to be a promotional base for the re-launch of this once famous station, but as the launch dates moved forward time and time again, the ship was taken to a temporary moorings, still awaiting the call to sail for West India dock. The date then slipped from Nov 5th to the 12th then the 19th and the 26th and finally to December 6th. By this time the dock had other bookings meaning that there was no room for Caroline's ship. The latest proposed launch date for Luxembourg is now simply said to be, "early in the new year" This is sad news for various presenters who have been waiting for some months now to take up generously paid positions within the new station. A comprehensive Luxembourg feature can be read within the News from around the World column.

High power SW.

Lovers of the old technology of S.W. may wish to tune in 5935 KHz from time to time at weekends. Via an experimental mast with an antenna operator Caroline is re-broadcast, currently on a test basis, on the above frequency, with a power of 100KW. Details of times will be published on this page, and on the weekend satellite service via Astra 1C Channel 35, Stereo Audio B or 2. At the overseas site, alterations to the aerial are being made experimentally to change the omni directional antenna to a new configuration which will beam all of the signal to the UK. The above information is provided by Caroline Newsbeat, the news agency of the Radio Caroline Support Group. Addresses: < www.radio-caroline.co.uk > or post at 426 Ashway Road, London N6 4JH England.

Photos

Every picture tells a thousand stories. That must have been the idea of Mike Broad and Martin van der Ven. They shot several photos from the two offshore vessels off the Israeli coast, radio-masted as they are. A selection of 37 photos from the MV Hatzon (Astra Shiva) of the King David (Astra 2000) can now be seen on Martin's professional website: < www.offshore-radio.co.uk/arc/htm.htm >

R.N.I. RSL

Paul Graham has revealed that the total costs of the RNI RSL project in August amounts to £12,000, 25% had to be paid to the Radio Authority covering the costs of the temporary licence. The RNI rescue company received a £2000 cheque. Paul announced that the Lightsabre #18, better known as the Meho III will be again used for broadcasting purposes next year. Most likely not under the same RNI!

New Radio Mi Amigo book

It's still a good memory to Dutch, Belgian and even British offshore fans. Radio Mi Amigo started Jan. 1st 1974 and had a disastrous start. After one hour the generator aboard the ship broke down... The rest of the day it was silence that ruled 259 metres in the medium wave band. And Mi Amigo would close down Oct. 20th 1978 because...the generator broke down! What happened between these two dates is to be read in a new book "Radio Mi Amigo Memories" part 1. For more info write to Haas Knot, P.O.Box 102, 9700 AC Groningen, the Netherlands.

Where are they now?

Former female Veronica presenter Tinake is back on the wireless. Each Wednesday and Friday 10.00-12.00 she presents "Koffiepod" on Radio Goodland and on Stadradio Breda. More former Veronica personnel is working on Radio Goodland, based in Hilversum. Stadradio Breda via internet: < <http://www.koffiepod.com/BredaConcours/5859/> >. Former Mi Amigo and Veronica pop Bart van Leeuwen has ranged as music-director on Radio 538. He did this job for the past 5 years. Perhaps he will return as deputy? Former Radio Monique deejay Jan Veldkamp works for the Dutch regional station Omroep Zeeland presenting a daily (weekdays) radio show for computer. The show is aired between 14.00-16.00 hours. Remember former Caroline ship Grand Blason? It had over 800 he went to Italy and South-France. Nowadays he works in Switzerland. Check out this website: < <http://www.105.ch/> >.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Johnny Walker

Former Caroline ship Johnny Walker will return on BBC Radio 2 presenting his daily Drive Time Show. The Beeb is his present employer suspending him in April following reports in a number of papers about selling and using drugs. On Dec. 15th Walker appeared in court and was sentenced to a £2,000 fine. The judge mentioned that it is say star's duty to set an example to others. Johnny Walker promised to mend his ways. He has kicked the habit of cocaine.

Delta 171

Delta 171 has sent an info package to the media. What now follows is an outline. The output power will be one MegaWatt (1000 kW) beamed to the west to the British Isle. The location will be some 35 km off Walcheren, the Netherlands. The construction on the high seas of the transmitting site will last two to three months. Delta 171 aims to become a Pan-European alternative for existing stations in a number of countries. The playlist must contain the favourite songs of the majority of its listening audience. Rather vague, isn't it? Delta plans to broadcast songs not yet being released in Great Britain to the Isle. 30% of the output will consist of commercials and the "spoken word". In other words: news will be a major part of the programming. Also sports will get much attention. Delta plans live reports from major sports events. All in all it is clear that the format is rather vague. We are curious whether such attempt will survive the rivalry of so many other stations in Great Britain and surrounding countries. Keep in mind that time will take place on Long wave with its inferior audio quality.

Arrow Classic Rock Top 500

Arrow Classic Rock (ACR) will be ringing out this millennium with its All Time Top 500 compiled by its listeners. Similar lists will also be aired by Dutch Radio 2 and Radio 538. The list will be aired under the title "Classic Rock Top 500" from Monday Dec. 20th to Thursday Dec. 24th. A complete repeat is planned for the period Dec. 27th-31st. Listeners may fax or Email their favourite Top 10 to the station. Since the end of 1996 ACR is putting out a one-stop musical diet of classic rock, a formula which is popular in the States. Willem van Kooten alias Foucault de Draayer brought the right to use this format. Because the format clearly differs from the output of college stations, ACR is a valuable alternative for many thousands of rock-oriented listeners. The format combines classic rock, popular album tracks and the best of modern rock. Music from the period 1964-now which will never be forgotten... The musical period 1965-1980 is emphasized within the format. Just think of the Rolling Stones, Eagles, The Doors, Bruce Springsteen, Santana, Fleetwood Mac, Eric Clapton, Golden Earring, The Beatles, David Bowie, Joe Cocker but also Tom Petty, Alanis Morissette, Radiohead, Anouk & INXS. ACR aims at a 20-50 year audience. The ACR-programme output is digitally produced being aired 7 days a week 24 hours a day via the Eutelsat satellite. Via several cable networks ACR reaches some 4.5 million listeners in the Netherlands including major cities such as Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Den Haag & Utrecht. In addition the stations uses a powerful AMF on 828 kHz. ACR is also to be heard in real audio via the internet. Email: < arrow@arrow.nl >. Website: < www.arrow.nl >.

Radio 2 turns into Radio 2000

Dutch national MOR station Radio 2 will be airing an All Time Top 2000 (!) starting at midnight Boxing Day. After 144 hours on-air stop (= 6 days) they play number one just before midnight Dec. 31st. None of the Radio 2



presenters wanted to present the final three hours. That means these hours won't be live and that former RNL and TROS deejay Ferry Mast will record these hours on tape. By the way, during this month's broadcast Radio 2 will be renamed into Radio 2000. Radio 2 is to be received on various FM freqs. Radio 2: <www.corroon.nl/radio2>.

Radio Caroline in The Netherlands

Earlier this year the FRS Newsletter reported about the start of Radio Caroline in the Netherlands. Various starting dates were mentioned but so far the two keyfigs: Roud Poole and former Caroline & R.N.I. man Bob Noakes were not getting the project off the ground. The latest info we have is that tests will commence very soon or have even started. For 1584 kHz AM, 1584 belongs to another Dutch commercial regional station, Radio Goodland. The latter has given up 1584. In case Caroline does not start testing before November 1st that's tomorrow. Radio

featured many nostalgic moments and included a number of classic 2008 par taken from the studio nation's starting tapes such as Bob Stewart, Kenny Everett and Chris Casey. At 00:00 UTC Luxembourg closed down and the 208 output reverted to the German office service.

The FRS Sales Productions archives contain the final 15 hours of Radio Luxembourg from Dec. 30th 1992 and are available to anyone interested... Drop an aine at the Herlen address or via the Internet.

The Facts

The new Radio Luxembourg will be on air 7 days a week 24 hours a day. Studios will be based both in Luxembourg and London. Radio Luxembourg will encompass a truly unique blend of traditional radio values, combined with the latest state-of-the-art production and transmission technologies. The station has decided to air a wide variety of popular music, it will certainly not become so-called narrowcasting. The presenter line-up includes The Emperor Rodko who was on EKR, Stuart Tilley, Mike Knight and Mike Hollis, being former Luxembourg employees, former Caroline presenter Johnny Reese, Jody Scott (former Caroline and Lusy presenter), Dave Cash, Sarah Miles (Caroline), Mark Stafford (currently Head of Music on Caroline) and Eric Withers. After a minor part of the programmes will come from Luxembourg, most of the programme output will come from studios based in London next to Towerbridge Street. In addition there will be one studio in Northern England. Mike Knight will be in charge of the Luxembourg pop and studio. Programme output contains Rodko's daily LA Connection live from LA. The Classic Chart Show counts down a 208 chart from the years gone by presented by Stuart Tilley cranking in the best from the past. Every Fri evening a classic pop-rock show will rule the airwaves and each Sunday the 208 Chart Countdown will again be the place to hear Tomorrow's Hits Today. Party Night Club 208 features the best mix of 3 decades of disco music. Johnny Reese brings 4 decades of Album music to Europe every Sunday. Country Connection brings you the latest news and music from Nashville, plus the latest European Country Chart Countdown. The Knight Owl as back on Lusy 208 with Mike Knight presenting 4 decades of the best Knight Time music with tracks that present to other stations will only ever dream of hearing. Dave Cash will present a weekly older chart. 208 Jukebox is a show specifically aimed at Lusy's on-line listeners around the world as they hook into the World's Suggest JukeBox. The keen media enthusiasts will not be forgotten as Eric Withers will be presenting Europe's Award winning media show "The Media Zoo" every Saturday afternoon. The latest media news will be complemented by new music from around Europe. To complete this programme, modern music nation Afternoon Delight, London Calling and Disco Fever. CLT-UEA Secretary General and Director General of Luxembourg activities, Aziz Aradhi, said: "We are delighted to see the re-birth of the legendary and much loved English language service of Radio Luxembourg." Chief Executive of Davic Productions, Eric Withers, added: "We look forward to working

Our (new) Internet addresses:

<frsh@planet.nl> & <peter.verbruggen@tip.nl>

Our site: <http://home.planet.nl/~frsh/home.html>

Goodland is permitted to reclaim 1584. But most likely they won't undertake any action simply because they do not really bother about using 1584. Some latest radio still as regular tests on 1584 kHz. A few tests were carried out Dec. 1st would be the official opening. But, Dec. 1st 1584 was silent. In November the computer was stolen from the Caroline site. Keeping all music must come from this computer, it is clear that this was a setback for the station. Luckily the suspect was caught and the computer returned to the Caroline studio. But so far no sounds on 1584 kHz AM. In 2000 more news!

FRS Feature.....The Return of Radio Luxembourg

The first rumours become reality

Mid August we spoke to EAP man Ray Anderson who revealed that Radio Luxembourg would be returning sometime in the 1999 autumn. At that moment we were staying at the English south-east coast to visit both R.N.I. and Caroline RSLs. Already in our September edition of the FRS Newsletter, we carried a small report about a possible return of the great 208. At that moment late September, no further details were known but only one day later, Wed Sept. 29th a press release reached us by Email in which CLT-UEA, Europe's leading broadcasting group in Europe, and Davic Productions proudly announced a cooperation, which will see the welcome return of Radio Luxembourg 208. A third party involved in the welcome return of Radio Luxembourg was a London based financing company led by former pop singer Guy "Dreamweaver" Wright. During the 1998 X-Mas Station a number of Luxembourg tapes were aired via satellite recalling "the good old days" when the station was alive and kicking. Eric Withers who was responsible for putting out these old tapes said that it was time to bring back the station. At that moment nobody took his words seriously. March 1999 a representative of CLT/UEA called Eric asking him to start some talks looking if a return of Radio Luxembourg could be realized. The talks were indeed successful. What so-one would dream of or expect will soon become reality: the world-famous Radio Luxembourg will soon return broadcasting via a hybrid delivery platform, which will incorporate the famous medium wave frequency of 208m/1440KHz AM, analogue and digital satellite and the Internet.

Back to the early 90s

Before covering the latest news, we go back to the early 90s. Monday Dec. 30th 1991 "the station of the stars" closed down its 1440 kHz AM service. Between 00:00-03:00 UTC the final show went out and at exactly 03:00 hours the same person who opened the station in 1953 closed it down with the words "Good night, good luck and keep listening to Radio Luxembourg". At that moment the station was already active via the Astra 1A satellite under the name RTL. In addition the output was also aired world wide on 15350 kHz SW. In 1992 the station continued with its non-stop pop music diet on SW & satellite. It came as a shock to many radio enthusiasts when it was announced that following the AM closure, the station would close down for good Dec. 30th 1992, exactly one year after 208 went silent. The audience surrounded by the station's closure was also mixed with some anger as the deejay crew believed they had been betrayed by the station's owners who had proved to be unenthusiastic in sustaining sufficient advertising and had planned Lusy's demise regardless of the station's popularity. There was also a degree of internal politics involved inside the RTL organization with the senior management seeming to favour Atlantic 252 rather than Luxembourg's English Service. The final 24 hours of the service, almost 7 years ago,

Boxing Day Sunday December 26th the final Millennium FRS-Holland broadcast. Make sure you tune in on either 48 or 41 metres. The 135th regular FRS-Holland will be ringing out the millennium. Reception reports are rewarded with our special Millennium QSL-card. The 26th...you know what to do....

closely with CLT-UEA to ensure that the return of Radio Luxembourg offers a style and sound that is 100% "Radio Luxembourg". Audiences across Europe will once again be able to enjoy a unique blend of music, from golden oldies, to the latest international, down the Luxembourg way - with a dedicated team of presenters". The official approval by the Luxembourg Government for Radio Luxembourg to radiate 208 on satellite was posted in the Luxembourg press October 23rd. Further to this SESASTRA have already issued the relevant paperwork, being signed and returned, for the satellite service. The Radio Luxembourg analogue service will be returning to Astra transmitter 13 (SuperRTL) on 7.337.56 audio subcarriers.

The first tests

CLT-UEA is Europe's leading broadcasting group, operating 40 radio stations and TV channels across Europe. The main question is: when will the station return? Radio Luxembourg expected to recommence transmissions early November 1999. But so far nothing happened. No reports reached us in November and many people thought the whole idea of bringing back Lusy 208 was one big hoax. Early December we received a report from Hans Knot who was in London speaking to Eric Withers early



December. At the moment Hest was in London the first AM tests had already started. With a power of 300 kW and making use of one of the old equipment, the 1490 kHz signal was being received loud and clear in the centre of London. According to Hest a great difference with the constantly fading signal of the past. Right now CLT-Lux is using a network of monitoring stations all over Europe. Those DXers and licensed amateurs carefully listen how the quality of the signal. Up till now the German Super RTL satellite signal is rebroadcasted on medium wave. Tests are ongoing and only start during the evening hours. Plans is to double the power as soon as official pre commences.

Excitement

The news about the return has caused much excitement in the radio world. Hundreds of Emails were received and the number of sites containing the name "Radio Luxembourg" doubled in a month time from 800 to 1600. In addition there's an Internet mail service containing nearly 1000 Email addresses. Several European FM stations have approached RL asking for permission to start an overnight relay service rebroadcasting the 208 pps via their outlet. The costs for the broadcasts will be much lower than in the past. The use of Internet makes an enormous difference with the expensive music feeds which were used in the 70s, 80s and 90s.

For those willing to have a look at the station's website around this time the website will be launched: < www.Radioluxembourg.lu >.

Check also < www.mede.de/208/ >.

And Finally

Some of you may be aware that someone made a terrible attack on Eric Withers on the internet radio newsgroup. Thereupon accused Eric of being a con-man, beatingup his wife/mis-treating his children, de-frauding charities, ripping-off Merlin and lots more. Eric now claims that the Luxembourg project is now delayed as he is working with his American lawyers to take action against whoever wrote the Email. He wrote this on the radio newsgroups about three weeks ago and no one knows what is happening.

Apart from the earlier mentioned final hours of Radio Luxembourg back in 1992, FRS Sales Productions contains a tape with Luxembourg jingles and a video with the station's history. If you are interested in any of these products or other recordings from sea to satellite, then send two IRC's or 2 US dollars to: FRS Sales Productions, POB 2727, 6849 JZ Hertin. In return you will receive a 25 page list with hundreds of hours of radio recordings from famous radio stations from around the world.

More Revivals

Following the revivals of Veronica, RNI and Luxembourg we can reveal that serious plans exist to bring back Wonderful Radio London. Such attempt was also made in the early 80s but it failed miserably. Some two years ago, following the Radio London RSL off Clacton-on-Sea even two organisations were seriously thinking about a return of Big L. Sources claim there are a number of investors involved backing the project for a considerable amount of money. One of the jocks being approached is former London jock Tony Blackburn. We'll await further info.

Radio 10 Gold changes name into Radio 10 FM

There's a big chance that this popular Dutch commercial radio station will give up 675 kHz AM transmission in the future. This means that many Germans, Belgians and UK listeners will be deprived of the powerful 120 kW signal. Reason is that since Radio 10 Gold is using several FM outlets in the Netherlands its AM audience dramatically dropped. Although the station has no nationwide FM coverage, terrestrial FM reception is provided in wide areas of the Netherlands (Central & Northern part of the Netherlands). Radio 10 FM will continue AM transmission as long as there is no nationwide FM coverage. Since Monday Nov. 1st Radio 10 Gold has become Radio 10 FM. For most commercial stations in the Netherlands the future is FM and not AM. The new name is chosen to attract a greater audience of 30+ listeners. Looking at the format we can reveal that oldies will remain the major part of the musical output. Between 07.00-09.00 and 17.00-19.00 no 60s hits will be played anymore. A new jingle package will be produced by Top Format. Old PAMS stuff will be reused for Radio 10 FM.

Millennium in March

March 27th 2000 Radio Netherlands World Service will air a special edition of Media Network, the popular weekly communications magazine world wide to be heard on SW, MW and satellite. Reason is that the one-thousandth (1000th) edition will then be presented by Jonathan Marks and Diana Janssen. Together with several persons who have been supplying newswires in the past 20 years, they will look back on various media subjects.

Commotion in Uselstein

A few hundred people who have bought new houses in a development, could become victim of a conflict between the local Uselstein authorities and the Dutch Nozema owning and running the transmitter sars in the Netherlands. The Nozema have asked the judge to withdraw a permit for building 120 new houses. The Nozema fears many complaints from future inhabitants. Why? Next year the Nozema wants to install a new 120 kW

powerhouse next to the 120 kW one already in use by Radio 10 FM. The new it will be used by business Radio News and will be tuned to 1184 kHz. All kind of electronic equipment could be "victim" of failures. Just think of thermostats and microwave ovens.

Atlantic 252 Continues

Some news about the future of Atlantic 252, the powerful Long Wave station broadcasting on 252 kHz from Ireland. Atlantic 252 is still quite popular in Great Britain with its format targeted at young people. Already for some time rumours are circulating that the Irish government refuses to extend Atlantic's licence. That would mean Atlantic has to close down before the end of 1999. It's no secret that the RTE would like to use 252 for broadcasts aimed at the many Irish people living in the Great Britain. Ten years ago the RTE wasn't interested at all but when Atlantic 252 became popular, the RTE changed its mind. RTE owns 20% of the share, the remaining 80% belong to CLT. Fact is that the licence had to be extended for another 10 year period in March of this year. That didn't happen then and hasn't happen until now. This doesn't imply Atlantic is forced to close down. A spokesman confirmed that Atlantic will continue for at least 6 months. Strange but true: although Atlantic lost quite some listeners, the station makes more profits. The answer are the 'premium numbers' (pay telephone lines) which are used for the many games in the programming. Website: < www.atlantic252.com >. In the mean time a new programme-director has been appointed: John O'Hara. It will be a tough job for him to put the station back on the rails after losing almost 50% of its audience in the past 12 months.

TTS Mediapro

TTS Media has opened a new site all about radio: < <http://www.hs-radio.co.uk> >. Email: < tom@tts-mediapro.co.uk >. Web site: < www.tts-mediapro.co.uk >.

Former Pirates on the Internet and FM

Two former famous Dutch FM pirates are now on the Internet. Radio Decibel from Amsterdam via < www.roek.demon.nl/decibel.htm > and De Hagus based Hotstad Radio via < <http://hotstad.nl.com/hotstar.htm> >.

Talking of old pirates: one of Holland's all time famous FM pirates, Radio Central from De Hagus, will be back on air on 92.2 FM full stereo Dec. 26, 1999 as well as Jan. 1st 2000.

News from the Isle of Man Int. Broadcasting Company

Paul Rutling informs that the IoMIBC have now submitted proposals for the half million watt transmitter station at the Point of Ayr. The application was accompanied by a weighty (over 100 pages) Environmental Impact Assessment, which includes work by Marconi Research. A 'non technical summary' of the EIA is now available on their web site: < www.27190909.com >. Address: Isle of Man International Broadcasting Company Ltd, P.O. Box 279, Ramsey, Isle of Man. Email: < IoMIBC@btconnect.com >. Following numerous delays, the IoMIBC have succeeded in putting its first new accommodation into use. The 1500 square metres will be used by the station's staff and the building is situated near the well-known Ramsey-based Viking Hotel. Plans are to rent a complete stock of the Viking hotel serving as studio, production and office room. MuncMann 279 will kick off in 2000. One of the keyfigures in this project is Paul Rutling who also played an important role in the start of Laser 55K, nearly 16 years ago.

Website Peter Messingford

His fully updated website includes photos of his visits to the Caroline studios in Maidstone, Mebo III (RNI RSL), Charlie Wolfe & the Merlin Network One studio. < <http://members.xoom.com/PeterMessingford99> >

CD Radio Inc

The satellite/Internet CD Radio Inc. has changed its name into Sirius Satellite Radio Inc. The 'radio' will change from CD/RD into SIRI as from January 1st 2000. The air of the US station is excellent: < www.siriusradio.com >.

Long and Medium Wave Stations

The latest edition of 'Long and Medium Wave Stations in Europe, North Africa, and Middle East' is out now. Belgian Herman Boel compiled this master reference. The list is all about Long and Medium Wave frequencies plus lots of relevant info regarding the stations being listed. Divided into frequency, exact location, output power, on air schedules. And classified per country including addresses. It is not a printed list but a digital release. This unique list is available for free as an PDF file (527 kb). You can download it from Herman's website: < <http://www.boel.be/long> >. But remember: you need the Acrobat Reader. If not, don't panic. Go to < www.adobe.com/acrobat > where you can download the software. And if you are not on the Internet and you cannot miss the smell of paper, then order yourself a written copy for BEP 300/ US\$10/ DM 15.00 via Herman Boel, Rokijf 10, 9300 Aalst in Belgium.

Sources: HansKnob/FRW, TTS MediaPro, FRN, SRS News, M-Visie, FRSH. The upcoming issue is out mid. March 2000 !!

